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Press Release

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DOT&PF deputy commissioner presents Alaska stimulus projects to Transportation Secretary LaHood

(JUNEAU, Alaska) – The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) was represented in the nation's capital this afternoon when Ray LaHood, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, met with the 50 state's transportation Commissioner's in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building next to the West Wing of the White House.

DOT&PF Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Public Facilities Frank Richards represented the State of Alaska during the meeting and highlighted a number of Alaska's stimulus projects.

"The infrastructure projects that I presented to Secretary LaHood are the ones that met both Governor Palin's and Congress's intent, that they are shovel-ready, of national significance and will put American's to work," said Richards.

Richards highlighted the work necessary on the Dalton Highway and its critical importance to the North Slope oil fields which accounts for 18 percent of the nation's oil production.

The Dalton Highway projects are important to the existing production and operations on the North Slope and will also serve as a platform from which to build the natural gas pipeline.

"The Dalton Highway project is vitally important for the continuation of safe movement of people and goods to Alaska's economic engine - the oil fields on the North Slope," said Richards. "We also look forward to beginning this project in anticipation of building the natural gas pipeline."

More information about Alaska's economic stimulus projects is available at the following DOT&PF website: <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/econstim/>.

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